

## Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

IGA-01 EB-07 /072 W

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R 271905Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1246

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFOR AZ

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 0310

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN JUNTA TAKES OFFICE

REF: PONTA DELGADA 293

1. AUGUST 26 REGIONAL JUNTA FOR AZORES TOOK OFFICE. JUNTA WILL BE DIRECTLY UNDER PRIME MINISTER, BUT ITS DUTIES AND POWERS ARE VAGUE. MOST PEOPLE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE JUNTA, ARE SKEPTICAL THAT IT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING. JUNTA FACES FORMIDABLE PROBLEMS INCLUDING: A) GETTING MONEY PROMISED FROM LISBON. MOST ARE SKEPTICAL MONEY WILL BE AVAILABLE. B) HAVING SUFFICIENT INDEPENDENCE FROM LISBON TO MAKE DECISIONS--PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT BECAUSE MODERATE JUNTA IS DIRECTLY UNDER PRIME MINISTER. C) SPURRING ECONOMIC PROGRESS WHILE TIED TO DECLINING PORTUGUESE ECONOMY D) DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM OF SKEWED DEVELOPMENT IN AZORES--SAO MIGUEL IS MUCH FURTHER DEVELOPED THAN OTHER ISLANDS E) OPERATING IN UNSETTLE CONDITIONS IN PORTUGAL AND IN AN EXPECTIZE ATMOSPHERE IN AZORES.

2. MEMBERS, DOCTOR RODRIGUES AND JOSE PACHECO DE ALMEIDA HAVE TOLD ME SEPERATE, THEY WILL RESIGN IF JUNTA IS NOT GIVEN CONFIDENTIAL

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SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY TO FUNCTION INDEPENDENTLY. BOTH

BELIEVE ONLY EXTENSIVE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AUTONOMY CAN  
RESOLVE AZOREAN PROBLEMS AND THEY WILL SETTLE FOR NOTHING LESS.

3. COMMENT: FOR FIRST TIME AZORES HAS ONE GOVERNMENT FOR  
ENTIRE ARCHIPELAGO. PROBLEMS IT FACES SEEM ALMOST IN  
SURMOUNTABLE. CHANCE FOR SUCESS DEPENDS ON GOP WILLINGNESS  
TO GIVE JUNTA FREEHAND AND MONEY,SOMETHINGS WE EXPECT. TO  
SUCCESS, JUNTA MUST EVOLVE EXTENSIVE AUTONOMY PROVIDING FOR  
AZOREAN CONTROL OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DECISIONS. MOST  
AZOREANS TODAY ARE UNWILLING TO SETTLE FOR ANYTHING LESS THAN  
THIS EXTENSIVE AUTONOMY AND SEE INDEPENDENCE AS ONLY  
ALTERNATIVE. ONE RUMOUR CIRCULATING SAYS ATLEAST FOUR JUNTA  
MEMBERS ARE FLA MEMBERS AND WILL RESIGN IF JUNTA UNABLE TO  
ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING, THUS TRIGGERING MOVE FOR INDEPENDENCE.  
FLA TIES AND EARLY RESIGNATION OF JUNTA MEMBERS MAKE SENSE.  
COLLAPSE OF JUNTA WOULD ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. IN  
ADDITION, EXPERIENCE OF UNITY GAINED IN JUNTA WOULD MAKE FORMATION  
OF INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT EASIER.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** JUNTA, AZORES, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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